As PA transitions to the Common Core Standards, focus on the defined content in the PA Academic Standards should continue, as well as emphasis on areas derived from Common Core.

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| **Continued Emphasis** | **Specific Common Core Emphasis** |
| Comprehension Skills  (Fiction and Non-Fiction) | * Using fiction and non-fiction texts to develop comprehension skills * Increasing reading of non-fiction texts (goal of 50% @ end of Grade 4) (Introduction to ELA: Key Design Considerations) * Making predictions, drawing conclusions, and supporting with details from text features (CC.K.R.L.7, CC.1.R.K.3, CC.R.I.6, CC.K.R.I.7) * Comparing/contrasting characters and experiences in and across texts (CC.K.R.L.9, CC.K.R.I.9) * Moving beyond simple identification of story elements to making connections between/among them in a text (CC.K.R.I.3) * Focusing on similarities and differences between texts (CC.K.R.L.9, CC.K.R.I.9) * Using emergent reader text to focus on reading with purpose and understanding (CC.K.R.L.10, CC.K.R.I.10) * Describing relationships between text and illustrations to deepen understanding of text (CC.K.R.L.7, (CC.K.R.I.7) |
| Vocabulary Development | * Emphasizing inflections and affixes, word relationships, word categories, frequently used verbs and adjectives, and shades of meaning (CC.K.L.1.b) (CC.K.L.4.a, CC.K.L.5, CC.K.L.5.b, CC.K.L.5.d) * Making real life connections between words and their use (CC.K.L.5.c) |
| Word Recognition Skills  Decoding Skills | * Reading high frequency words by sight (CC.K.R.F.3.c) * Segmenting and blending of words (CC.K.R.F.2.b) * Recognizing and naming all upper and lower case letters (CC.K.R.F.1.d) * Associating long and short sounds of the five major vowels (CC.K.R.F.2.d) |
| Fluency | * Emphasizing automaticity at letter/sound and word level (CC.1.R.F.4.b) |
| Types of Writing  Quality of Writing | * Writing every day in response to learning (CC.K.W.2) * Writing to express opinions (CC.K.W.1) * Employing peer review in the revising process (CC.K.W.5) * Using technology tools/digital resources to publish writing (CC.K.W.6) |
| Research | * Collaborating with peers to produce shared research and writing projects (CC.K.W.5) (CC.K.W.6) CC.K.W.7) (CC.K.W.8) |
| Speaking and Listening | * Employing group reading activities (CC.K.SL.1) * Providing detail when describing people, places, things, and events (CC.K.SL.2) * Participating in collaborative conversations with peers and adults (CC.K.SL.1) |
| Conventions of Standard English | Foundational grammar should be taught in the context of reading, writing, and speaking.   * Emphasizing frequently used nouns, verbs, and prepositions; question words; and noun plurals (CC.K.L.1.b) (CC.K.L.1.c) (CC.K.L.1.d) * Focusing on letter-sound correspondence (CC.K.L.2.d) |
| Technology Literacy | * Emphasizing digital tools for instruction and student productivity (CC.K.W.6) |